

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following brief description of the drawings, at the top of page 3, before the Detailed Description of the Invention:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

**Figure 1.** Species specific PCR with Y2/PARA primers was carried out for identification of strain *L. paracasei* IMPCI 2.1.

**Figure 2.** Confirmation of the identification of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 by ARDRA.

**Figure 3.** A SEM image of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 adhering to the intestinal pig mucus after three washings.

**Figure 4.** Anchoring and distribution of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 on the pericarp. Control pericarp (SEM observation). (Upper panel). Adhesion of *L. paracasei* IMPC 2.1 on the pericarp (Lower panel).